

# C.A.P. COMMAND CHANGES- GROUP CLAIMS 5-YEAR RIGHT TO USE OF LOCAL AIRFIELD

Command of the Third Group of the Civil Air Patrol, California Wing, has passed from Major C. H. Holmes to Capt. C. N. Perkins, according to announcement of the latter official.

Holmes has been assigned to staff duty with the wing headquarters, it was said, ending his duty with the third group which started prior to the end of the war.

Captain Perkins is a deputy city attorney for the City of Los Angeles assigned to the Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners, and is affiliated with a group in the Civil Air Patrol, a federal corporation, which holds, it is said, five-year lease on all of the Lomita air strip property not included in the lease granted to the City of Torrance by the Public Roads Administration and recently dedicated as "Zampertini Field."

Perkins conferred with city officials of Torrance relative to a possible agreement by which the terms of his lease could be completed, calling for a monthly rental of \$1,050 for one year and \$1,400 a year for the balance of four years, plus back payments of about \$6,000 since the lease is retroactive to September, 1945.

It was pointed out that the permit of the City of Torrance for use of the flight strip proper, containing about 90 acres, is exclusive, and that the lease granted to the group of Captain Perkins is for the balance of the acreage, with no landing and take-off privileges on the flight strip except with the consent of the City of Torrance.

On the other hand, it was said, the five-year CAP lease involves all buildings and equipment on the property, and that neither the CAP nor the city of Torrance can operate successfully without all the facilities and equipment on the airport.

Captain Perkins was reported to be seeking an agreement with the City of Torrance for joint occupancy of the airport in accordance with the terms of each lease or permit involving the property.

Due to the fact that the City Council could not meet legally until Dec. 24, and due to the further fact that the regular meeting day was to fall on Christmas eve, it was anticipated that no action could be taken until Dec. 26 on any cooperative agreement between the City of Torrance and the Civil Air Patrol group headed by Captain Perkins.

That the claim of Captain Perkins to a lease for five years to all the acreage in the airport except the flight strip proper was to be completed not later than Dec. 24 was admitted.

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# L.A. Officials Say They Did All In Power To Hold Aluminum Plant

By BILL MOFFAHER  
C.N.S. STAFF WRITER

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and Councilman Ed J. Davenport (12th district) have climbed into the ring on the side of Mayor Fletcher Bowron to engage the U.S. Senate Small Business Committee on the issue of whether the city should have retained the \$25,000,000 aluminum reduction plant at Torrance.

The War Assets Administration has advertised the plant for sale as surplus on Jan. 24, when it will be turned over to the highest bidder for removal to some other section of the country.

Lack of an adequate power supply keeps the plant from operating here.

Dewey Anderson, executive secretary of the Senate committee, criticized Los Angeles for losing a golden opportunity for employment at the aluminum plant and stated 1,000 men could have worked there.

But city officials are not reluctant to lose the plant described as a "white elephant" and "another example of too hasty war inspired action" by Mayor Bowron.

Councilman Davenport ridiculed the intelligence of the Federal agency which established the plant in Torrance.

He pointed out that by council action a year ago a rolling mill which does not require the immense amount of power required by a reduction mill had been saved for the city.

"The Federal government certainly showed good sense during the war," said Davenport sarcastically. "They potted ingots at the Torrance plant, shipped them to Spokane, Wash., to be rolled into sheet metal and then the sheet aluminum was shipped back to the Los

# Factual Data Supports Water District Need

By GILBERT J. POTTS  
President, Gardena Chamber of Commerce

Proponents of the measure to form the West Basin Water District, by majority vote on January 14, have based their decision on findings published in five separate reports by qualified hydraulic engineers on the basin water deficiency.

The first report issued on June 22, 1935, by Arthur W. Cory, then consulting engineer with the Inglewood City Water Department, was published as a warning to the City Council. In his report Cory stated "During the past summer (1935) the lowest static level (water level when not pumping) averaged 12 feet above sea level in four wells close to the site of the old (Centinela) springs showing a drop in water level of 128 feet in 30 years."

(Cory continues) "This lowering of the water table in our wells is not due entirely to the pumping which we ourselves do, but is a direct result of all pumping carried on in other wells thru this basin." "If even the present rate of withdrawal of water from the ground continues, and it will no doubt increase, one cannot help but feel worried as to what the results will be unless a thorough conservation program is speedily carried out."

A second report in March, 1944, by the Division of Water Resources of the State of California on "Underground Water Conditions in West Coast Basin" states "The draft on ground water, of West Coast Basin was, in the years before 1920, only a fraction of that which now exists, yet it even then exceeded the small recharge." "The lowering of ground water levels and the intrusion of sea water which have occurred since 1903 may not seem very important in relation to the almost 40 years which have passed since then, but the rate at which these difficulties have increased in the past is but a slow-motion picture of the rate which will occur in the not distant future, with

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# TORRANCE HERALD

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# Christmas . . . 1946



THE NATIVITY, by Gerard David

GERARD DAVID (1460?-1523) . . . Flemish painter and illuminator, was considered one of the best of the early Flemish school of painters. "The Nativity," shown above, is the central panel of his altarpiece, "The Nativity, with Saints and Donors," now in the Metropolitan Museum, New York.

The central panel of this altarpiece represents the Madonna in a blue, gold-bordered mantle and blue-gray robe, kneeling at the left, with St. Joseph, at the right, in adoration of the Child, lying in the manger between them. The ox and the ass are depicted in the center, staring at the newborn infant. An open basket containing swaddling clothes, and a bundle of straw upon which is a pilgrim's staff, are lying on the ground. Seven angels, singing the "Gloria in Excelsis" are descending at the upper left. Through an open window at the right, Simon and Jude and other shepherds with their flock are seen, while the announcing angel hovers in the sky.

The scene is set within a Gothic ruined building in the perpendicular style, but with square window and door openings. Lichen and ferns are introduced on various ledges and interstices of the walls. A hilly landscape is continued throughout the background of the three panels. Left and right panels not shown here represent the saints and donors.

TOUCH GRID SEVEN TO COMPETE FOR SO. CALIF. TITLE

The Torrance Dirty Seven, winners of the Torrance recreation department's touch football league, will play one of three Los Angeles County champions Sunday on the Torrance High school football field. The game will start at 10:30 a. m.

Four league winners, representing Griffith Park, Hollywood, Westside and Torrance will have their first elimination games on the above date followed by a championship playoff in Griffith Park, Sunday, January 5. The winner will be declared Southern California touch football champions, according to Tom McDougall, county director of the event.

GERMANY FIRST

Daimler, of Germany, is credited with building in 1898 the first automobiles with engines under the hood.

CRICKETS

Crickets are caged for their song in some regions, according to the Encyclopaedia Britannica. Cricket fighting is a favorite sport in China.

CPA Approves Two Non-Housing Buildings Here

The Civilian Production Administration last week approved two non-housing projects here, according to Louis M. Dreyfus, chairman of the advisory committee.

The General Petroleum Corp., 190th St. and Crenshaw blvd., received permission to build additional shower facilities for personnel at a cost of \$9,800. Also approved was a \$14,000 office building for the American Rock Wool Corp., 401 Arlington ave.

METHODIST PROGRAM

The Methodist Youth Fellowship will sponsor Dec. 31 a watch night program and a party for all residents of the community, according to an announcement received here yesterday. The program, which will start at 7:30 p. m., will be conducted in the Torrance Methodist church.

# Early Schedule Again This Week For The Herald

The Torrance Herald of next week, Jan. 2, will go to press on Monday evening for distribution on Tuesday, Dec. 31, in order to give employees of the Torrance Herald the full holiday on New Year's day and New Year's eve, and to better serve the advertisers.

Classified advertising will close at 12 noon on Monday, and church, society and club notices at 10 a. m. on Saturday, Dec. 25.

Carriers and street sales boys are asked to be at the regular distribution points in the Herald office at 9 a. m. on Tuesday, Dec. 31.

# Torrance Area Youth Band In Program Here

The Torrance Area Youth band, directed by James Van Dyck, presented a program Thursday in Torrance Civic auditorium.

The intermediate band played three selections followed by a saxophone solo by Jackie Beeman, youthful student of only three months. The seniors played two selections, "The Men in Lincoln Green," and "The Forest Prince."

A cornet solo by Jackie Pollock was followed by Christmas carols and "The American Patriot," played by the senior group. A radio phonograph, presented by the organization, was given to Charles V. Jones, attendant at the affair.

The band was organized to instruct musical aspirants in junior in term diatonic and senior groups. Mrs. Herman Mitchell, publicity chairman, said.

Those interested may also appear at the regular Thursday night rehearsals in the Civic auditorium and inquire directly from Van Dyck.

# Control Tower Is Built As Hughes Ship Tests Near

With test runs nearing for the world's biggest flying boat, although the date is still unset, Howard Hughes' workmen on Terminal Island started work on a lofty control tower to facilitate ship-to-shore communications when the plane and its eight mighty engines begin harbor tests.

The octagonal, glass-enclosed structure will be built at the site and crane-hoisted atop a 51-foot water storage tank, which will serve as its base as well as its original function—fire prevention.

The control room, mounted on a steel framework designed to stand earthquake stress, will tower 63 feet above the ground. It will consist almost entirely of one-quarter inch plate glass set in three-quarter-inch wood sash above a three-and-a-half foot redwood siding wainscote.

# EL CAMINO JUNIOR COLLEGE USE OF ALONDRA PARK LAND IS REQUESTED BY NEW BOARD

Possibility of the location of the new El Camino Junior college in Alondra Park was seen in Thursday night's action of the Board of Trustees meeting at El Segundo meeting, when a resolution was approved requesting the County Board of Supervisors to appropriate seventy-five acres of park property for the use of the college.

# Meat Markets Remain Closed For Holidays

Meat counters made bare in the normally prosperous Christmas season were closed for the president's demand that they close on Monday of every week were due to remain unstocked today, and indefinitely, it was announced, followed a meeting in the Long Beach hall yesterday.

Frank Krasnesky, president of Meat Cutters Local No. 551, with jurisdiction over some 500 markets in the Orange County, Long Beach, Torrance, Lomita and harbor area, flatly refused to recede from his previous stand (demanding time and one-half for Monday if markets are opened Monday, \$70 a week guarantee and three weeks' vacation a year after five years), despite arbitration efforts by the employers. The employers, with the support of a reported majority of the members of the union involved, had offered time and a half for all time over five days, including Monday, \$66 a week for a 40-hour week, and two weeks vacation a year after three years of service. Working more than five days was considered optional, but the employers insist on keeping the markets open on Mondays, a move in which they have a substantial employee support.

Krasnesky was reported to have refused to arbitrate demands, and had "stood up" Long Beach Mayor H. E. Bewis in one meeting before finally facing the mayor, employer representatives and union men yesterday morning. Every effort had been made at the session to reach an agreement by which operators could open the markets to the Christmas trade today. Krasnesky, employer representatives said, was attempting to keep the markets closed until after Christmas so as to shunt to those market operators who have signed up with him the business that would have otherwise gone to the now closed shops. Krasnesky claimed that several big shops had signed the agreement he had submitted.

Approval of the site in Alondra Park at the intersection of Prairie ave. and Redondo Beach blvd., and acquisition by the junior college district will result in a saving to the taxpayers of nearly a quarter of a million dollars. It was stated by Robert Fassel of Redondo Beach, president of the board of trustees. It is hoped that construction of the permanent college building can be financed on a pay-as-you-go basis.

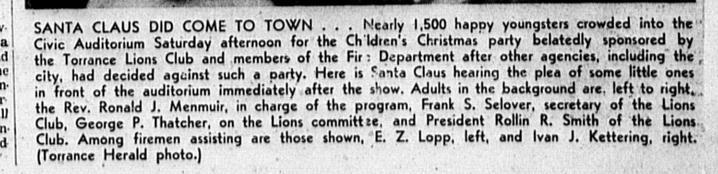
As a result of last night's meeting formal applications are being filed with the Federal Works agency for the earmarking of government owned buildings to be created on the college site at government expense in connection with the veteran's education program. Preliminary approval has been given by Federal authorities for the transfer of twelve units to the college district to be used to house the September 1947 enrollment. Similar units have been given by the government to nearby junior colleges including Compton and Glendale. At present the college has an enrollment in excess of 450 students in classes on the three high school campuses of the district. It is expected that this enrollment will exceed 1,000 students by the fall of next year.

At the present time the college without a campus' ranks 26th in size in the 52 junior colleges in California.

The central location and easy accessibility from all parts of the area are pointed out as favoring the Alondra Park location in addition to the very definite monetary saving to the taxpayers.

Torrance residents will vote on Jan. 24 on affiliation with the new junior college district, at

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SANTA CLAUS DID COME TO TOWN . . . Nearly 1,500 happy youngsters crowded into the Civic Auditorium Saturday afternoon for the Children's Christmas party belatedly sponsored by the Torrance Lions Club and members of the Fire Department after other agencies, including the city, had decided against such a party. Here is Santa Claus hearing the plea of some little ones in front of the auditorium immediately after the show. Adults in the background are, left to right, the Rev. Ronald J. Menmuir, in charge of the program, Frank S. Selover, secretary of the Lions Club, George P. Thatcher, on the Lions committee, and President Rollin R. Smith of the Lions Club. Among firemen assisting are those shown, E. Z. Lopp, left, and Ivan J. Kettering, right. (Torrance Herald photo.)